



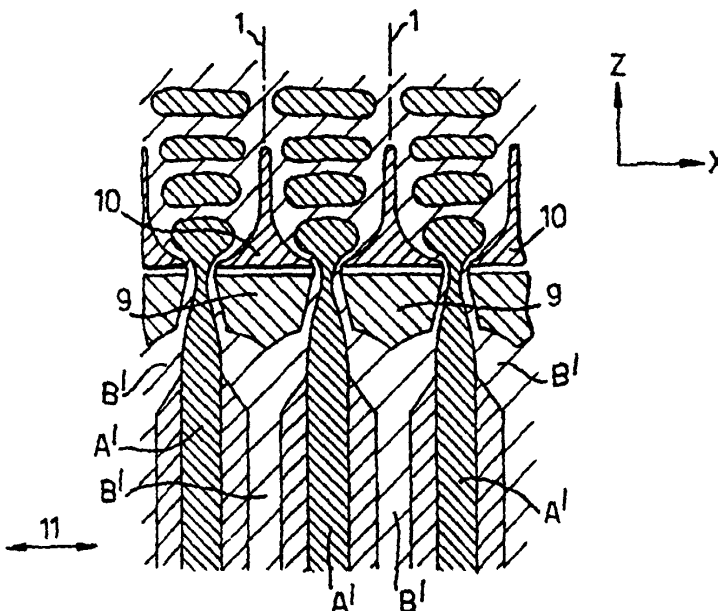
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : A23P 1/12, A23J 3/26, A23G 3/20, 9/28		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/60959
			(43) International Publication Date: 19 October 2000 (19.10.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/03713		(81) Designated States: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 13 April 2000 (13.04.00)			
(30) Priority Data: 9908444.4 13 April 1999 (13.04.99) GB 9912565.0 28 May 1999 (28.05.99) GB			
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(54) Title: FOOD PRODUCT WHICH ARTIFICIALLY HAS BEEN GIVEN A CELL-LIKE STRUCTURE BY COEXTRUSION OF SEVERAL COMPONENTS, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING SUCH FOOD PRODUCT

(57) Abstract

Two or more different materials, especially food materials, are coextruded through adjacent orifices of an extruder. The flows of the two materials are cut in a direction transverse to the flow to form segments of flow. These segments are interspersed so as to join upstream and downstream of each segment of first material to a segment of a second material. Generally two rows of joined segmented flows are extruded side by side. Preferably between the two rows is formed a boundary cell wall which usually is transformed to a harder material after extrusion. Cell walls of the harder material may surround, in two or three dimensions, cells of softer or foamed material. Co-extrusion is carried out by a method in which the dividing members which segment the flows move across the extruder orifices in rhythm with the imposition of extrusion pressure on the material through the respective orifice. The dividing members may reciprocate or rotate relative to the orifices. Preferably the dividing members are fixed and the orifices are caused to move. In this case, the material may be supplied from respective reservoirs in fixed dye components, to the moving portion. The process and apparatus is particularly useful for producing confectionary products, for instance formed of chocolate, marzipan, or dough materials.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EPO/03713

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A23P1/12 A23J3/26 A23G3/20 A23G9/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A23P A23G A23J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, PAJ, EPO-Internal, FSTA

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 September 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

19/09/2000

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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